

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 7-9, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by “Windows XP in a Nutshell” by Karp et al. (“*Karp*”); and rejected claims 4-6 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by “Microsoft Excel 2002 Version 3.0.6926 SP-3” (“*Excel*”).

Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 7, 10, and 13. Claims 1-15 remain pending.

I. Regarding the rejection of claims 1-3, 7-9, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Karp*

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-3, 7-9, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Karp*. In order to properly establish that *Karp* anticipates Applicants’ claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102, each and every element of each of the claims in issue must be found, either expressly described or under principles of inherency, in that single reference. Furthermore, “[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.” See M.P.E.P. § 2131, quoting *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1126, 1236, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). *Karp* does not anticipate the claims at least because it fails to teach each and every element of the claims.

Claim 1 recites a method including, for example:

detecting a user navigation input comprising a sibling navigation input or a parent navigation input, the sibling navigation input comprising a key press of a first alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier,

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

and the parent navigation input comprising a key press of a second alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier;

(emphasis added). *Karp* does not disclose at least these elements of claim 1.

In the Response to Arguments section, the Examiner states, “the Examiner does not agree with the Applicant in the aspect that Windows XP as commonly known in the art exhibits and makes use of identifiers. The Examiner provides additional references which exhibit what was commonly known in the art . . . , herein known as “Delphi,” to support the Examiner’s assertion that group identifiers are commonly known and widely used in the art, especially in that of Windows XP which is taught by *Karp*.” (Office Action at pages 7-8). However, because claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as unpatentable over *Karp*, the Examiner’s introduction of new references to define the state of common knowledge in the art is inappropriate. As discussed above, each and every element of each of the claims in issue must be found, either expressly described or under principles of inherency, in *Karp*.

Karp discloses an appendix list of keyboard shortcuts. The Examiner asserts that Fig. 2 illustrates “the first group of control elements as indicated by under scoring letters of controls (file, edit, insert, format, tools, window, help) therefore the ALT key is correlated with a group identifier to relate to the group of controls.” (Office Action at page 4). Applicants respectfully disagree. Because the ALT key is not an alphanumeric character, *Karp* does not disclose a “sibling navigation input comprising a key press of a first alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier,” as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Fig. 3 states that the user “can use the tab control to tab through the child nodes of a parent or the user can use the left and right arrow keys to tab

through parent nodes and up and down arrow keys to tab through child nodes.” The keys used to navigate the child nodes, being either the tab key or the up/down arrow keys, do not include a key press of an alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier. Therefore, *Karp* does not teach or suggest “detecting a user navigation input comprising a sibling navigation input or a parent navigation input, the sibling navigation input comprising a key press of a first alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier, and the parent navigation input comprising a key press of a second alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier,” as recited in claim 1.

Karp fails to teach at least the above elements and, accordingly, *Karp* cannot anticipate claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is allowable for at least these reasons. Claims 2 and 3 are also allowable at least due to their dependence from claim 1.

Independent claims 7 and 13, while of different scope from claim 1 and each other, recite elements similar to those of claim 1 and, thus, are allowable over *Karp* for at least the same reasons discussed above in regard to claim 1. Claims 8-9 and 14-15 are also allowable at least due to their dependence from claims 7 and 13, respectively.

**II. Regarding the rejection of claims 4-6 and 10-12 under
35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Excel***

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 4-6 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Excel*.

Claim 4 recites a method including, for example:

detecting a user navigation input comprising a forward navigation input or a backward navigation input, the forward navigation input comprising a key press of a first alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier, and the backward navigation input comprising a key press of a second alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier;

(emphasis added). *Excel* does not disclose at least these elements of claim 4.

Excel discloses a parent node and child nodes associated with the parent node (Fig. 2). The user may arrow into editable cells, forward and backward navigate through the cells (Fig. 3), and lock a cell (Fig. 4). The Examiner asserts that Fig. 2 illustrates “the first group of control elements as indicated by under scoring letters of controls (file, edit, insert, format, tools, window, help) therefore the ALT key is correlated with a group identifier to relate to the group of controls.” (Office Action at page 6). However, any forward or backward user navigation input that may exist in Fig. 2 constitutes a keystroke, such as the left or right arrow key, to navigate the parent or child nodes. Such keys do not constitute “a key press of a first alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier.”

Furthermore, the user navigation inputs illustrated in Fig. 3 of *Excel* are the arrow keys, the Tab key, or the Shift-Tab key combination. These inputs are used to navigate through cells, but they do not include a “key press of a first alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier.” Therefore, *Excel* does not teach or suggest the claimed “detecting a user navigation input comprising a forward navigation input or a backward navigation input, the forward navigation input comprising a key press of a first alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier, and the backward navigation input comprising a key press of a second alphanumeric character, constituting a group identifier” as recited in claim 4.

Excel fails to teach at least the above elements and, accordingly, *Excel* cannot anticipate claim 4. Thus, claim 4 is allowable for at least these reasons. Claims 5 and 6 are also allowable at least due to their depending from claim 4.

Independent claim 10, while of different scope, recites limitations similar to those of claim 4 and, thus, is allowable over *Excel* for at least the same reasons discussed above in regard to claim 4. Claims 11 and 12 are also allowable at least due to their depending from claim 10.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.


Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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